



Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Division of Water Helps Water Systems Prepare for Emergencies

Frankfort, Ky. (May 10, 2013) -- The Kentucky Division of Water (DOW) is helping public drinking water systems prepare for emergency situations by providing an Emergency Response Plan (ERP) template. This template provides a framework for the public water systems to create a comprehensive ERP to fit their specific needs.

An ERP is a written plan that describes the actions a public water system will take in response to emergency events. An effective ERP includes plans to provide adequate potable water during emergency situations and restore normal operations afterwards.

The template is designed to provide a framework for the public water systems to create a comprehensive ERP to fit their specific needs, said Anne Powell with the DOW Capacity Development Section.

"Utilities that maintain a current list of system components, emergency contacts and pre-defined response actions are better prepared to respond quickly and appropriately in emergency situations to protect public health," said Powell.

The template, which is an interactive PDF document, will help utilities compile and update essential information, including:

- An internal chain of command;
- current contact information;
- water treatment plant schematic;
- stand-by power requirements;
- basic system components;
- alternative water sources; and
- ERP training and exercise records.

The interactive ERP template is available on the DOW website at <http://water.ky.gov/DrinkingWater/Pages/CapDev.aspx>. For more information, call Powell at 502-564-3410 or email anne.powell@ky.gov.

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